

of the winter, for the thermometer several times touched zero, it seems strange that these birds should have stayed north, especially as everything was frozen up and the flats and feeding grounds were covered with ice. How they managed to find any sustenance, to say nothing of their being fat, seems a mystery. That same week I was on Martha's Vineyard Island where I found a male Chewink wintering, which I reported in 'The Auk,' Volume XXVII, p. 220.—S. PRESCOTT FAY, *Boston, Mass.*

Breeding of the Long-eared Owl in Philadelphia County, Pa.—It appears almost incredible that any of our larger hawks and owls can exist in such a densely populated locality as Philadelphia, yet, to our surprise and wonder, they somehow manage to subsist, despite the ruthless warfare waged against them by ignorant gunners and farmers, who kill them upon every occasion. In view of these facts it is a mystery to me why our larger Raptores have not long ago been extirpated as breeders in this vicinity, but such seems not to have as yet happened, as their occasional discovery nesting indicates.

The Long-eared Owl (*Asio wilsonianus*) is one of these much maligned species. It now is of decidedly scarce occurrence even as a winter visitant and is a rare breeder. It is so rare in Philadelphia that I have not seen any since December, 1902, and have only several other subsequent records of them from near the city.

Although I have never actually found a nest in Philadelphia I have seen the young, which establishes a record of its breeding. On June 9, 1898, in a big, thick wood at Frankford, I discovered four fledgling Long-eared Owls huddled together about thirty feet up in a scrubby scarlet oak. When disturbed they flew weakly about in a bewildered manner in all directions, and their discovery by the inhabitants of the wood had made them almost distracted. They were evidently raised in one of the many Crow's nests in the wood. A pair of Long-eared Owls was seen in this wood on March 14, 1902, but subsequent search for them and their nest was fruitless, and I have no doubt that the birds were shot.—RICHARD F. MILLER, *Harrowgate, Philadelphia, Pa.*

Northwestern Saw-whet and Snowy Owls in Oregon.—On Nov. 30, 1909, a hunter shot a fine adult female Snowy Owl (*Nyctea nyctea*) at Sheridan, Dougal Co., Oregon. It was perched on a large stump beside the trail in heavy forest. Mr. Frank Baker, a Portland, Oregon, taxidermist, has three Northwestern Saw-whet Owls (*Cryptoglaux acadica scotae*) collected in Douglas County during the summer of 1899. Both these Owls are rare in this part of the State.—STANLEY G. JEWETT, *Portland, Oregon.*

A Hybrid Flicker in Eastern Missouri.—On Feb. 6, 1910, on the bank of the Meramec River, ten miles southwest of St. Louis, I found dead a Flicker, a hybrid of the Northern (*Colaptes auratus lutescens*) and Red-shafted

(*Colaptes cafer collaris*). The three outer primaries on each wing, and the three outer tail feathers were strongly marked with red, the two outer primaries being entirely colored on the under side. The other markings were those of a male Northern Flicker. The bird had apparently been hurt. There is no record of a hybrid Flicker for any except the extreme western portion of Missouri, and it is not mentioned at all in Cory's lately published list of the birds of Illinois and Wisconsin. Dr. Otto Widmann, in his 'Birds of Missouri,' cites several records of typical Red-shafted Flickers in Courtney County, in the extreme western part of the State.—ROGER M. BALDWIN, *St. Louis, Mo.*

The Wintering of Meadowlarks at Pine Point, Maine.— Referring to Mr. Arthur H. Norton's notice¹ of the wintering of Meadowlarks (*Sturnella magna*) at Pine Point, it should be said that I have seen these birds there almost daily throughout the past three winters. Making their home in the thick woods near by, they obtained their food from the marsh. During the winter of 1907-08 a flock of eight stayed in the vicinity of the railroad station, being frequently seen on the adjacent marshes. The next winter the flock was increased to about twelve or fourteen birds. I saw them nearly every day all through the winter. In very cold weather, when the grasses and weeds of the marsh were buried beneath the snow, they would venture up to the railway station and pick up grain which had fallen from the freight cars. That they enjoyed their winter stay at Pine Point seems evident, for the past winter a flock of thirty-five or forty birds spent the cold months with us. In February, when the marsh was deeply covered with snow, I frequently walked out near the river, scraped off snow from small patches of grass and fed the larks with grain — cracked corn, oats and barley. They evidently relished this, for it was eagerly devoured. On warm days in January and February they often alighted on the telegraph wires and sang. One could scarcely realize then that it was midwinter.—FRED. S. WALKER, *Pine Point, Maine.*

Calcarius lapponicus at Monomoy, Mass., in April.— At Monomoy, Mass., on April 10, 1909, I saw at least twelve Lapland Longspurs (*Calcarius lapponicus*), two of which I secured. The birds were apparently feeding on the seeds of the coarse salt grass, which grows on the edge of the marsh near the flats and is partly covered at high tide.

During the three or four previous days, I saw small flocks of Lapland Longspurs at different times, but as I was not at Monomoy after April 10, I do not know how much later the birds remained.—CHAS. R. LAMB, *Cambridge, Mass.*

The Chestnut-collared Longspur in Illinois.— On April 24, 1910, my friend Mr. Gerard Alan Abbott, while investigating bird life on the prairies

¹ Auk, Vol. XXVI, p. 308.